

# GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.



Locally owned and operated since 1974

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## Did You Know?

Guardian Security monitors your alarm system 24/7. When a system goes into alarm, central station operators will try to reach you.

If they cannot, they will call down your contact list.

Therefore, it is important that customers review their contact lists. Be sure all names are current, phone numbers are current, and that each person on the list has your required passcode.

It only takes a few minutes and could save a lot of headache later.

Update online at <https://www.guardiansecuritysys.com/support/update-emergency-contact-list/>.

## New Alarm Policy for Anchorage

Residents of the Municipality of Anchorage stand to save a little money with a recent policy change.

The Anchorage Police Department no longer is able to collect \$25 annually for each registered security alarm system.

Until the recent change, owners of security alarm systems were required to register the system with the police department, and pay a registration fee every year. Now, the second part of that policy has been abolished.

Despite protests from the police department, who are hard-pressed to see where the quarter-million dollar deficit will be regained, Assembly members put forth the change in an effort to save Anchorage residents the nuisance of paying annually for a system that is already professionally monitored. Unlike false alarm fines, the annual fee didn't make sense from both the homeowners' and police department's point of view.

Some things, however, have not changed. The ordinance requiring registration still remains in place. Security system owners

must register their alarm systems with the municipality "immediately," according to the law. This one-time registration can be done by printing out a form online and mailing it in with the required \$50 fee.

Forms for business alarms and residential alarms can be found at <http://www.muni.org/Departments/police/ComAffairs/Pages/SecuritySystems.aspx>. Any changes to the information required on the form, such as the property owner's name and contact information, must be submitted within ten days of the change.

It should be noted that ordinances concerning false alarms are still in place. Ordinances involving false alarm fines have changed slightly. In part because of over 5,000 false alarms each year, Anchorage residents can be fined in increasing amounts, depending on the number of times police or firefighters respond to an alarm that is deemed unnecessary. An explanation of the False Alarm Ordinance can be found on the Guardian website: <http://www.guardiansecuritysys.com/april-2012-newsletter/>. Altogether, the policy change means more pocket money and less hassle for municipality residents.

# Dipping Temperatures Mean...

**Guardian offers:**

\*local monitoring by a local company

\*24/7 monitoring of your home or business

\*free training on all system components

\*video surveillance

\*web-based home automation

\*free consultations

\*access control

\*patrol services

\*burglar, fire, temperature and moisture alarms

\*interactive security

\*alarm response program

\*more!

Leaves are falling, temperatures dropping, and it's time to think winter. This could mean preparing the yard and garden for winter. Or maybe it means

waxing the skis and tuning up the snow machines. It could mean winterizing the boat and RV.

Regardless of the list of winter chores we all have, one thing should definitely be on it: checking environmental sensors.

If environmental sensors aren't currently a part of your security system, consider adding this layer of security for your home. Sensors send an alert when your home or business has

*An undetected furnace failure can cause frozen and burst pipes, and result in a lot of headache and expense. Protect your home with a freeze sensor. Freeze sensors alert Guardian Security when your home experiences an environmental threat, minimizing the potential damage that an unforeseen freeze can cause. Call Guardian to discuss whether environmental security sensors will improve the security of your home. We're here to serve!*

reached critically low temperatures, or when high levels of moisture are present.

For example, an unoccupied cabin may benefit from a freeze sensor to protect pipes. A crawl space could benefit from a moisture sensor. There are myriad ways in which these sensors can protect your investment.

If sensors are already installed, consider talking through their placement with a Guardian consultant. It may be time to add a sensor to your system.

And finally, it is important to test these sensors to ensure that they are working properly.

Guardian is happy to walk you through this process. The peace of mind in knowing your property is protected whether you are home or away is priceless.



## Kid Safety

The colder it gets, the longer the walk home from the bus stop after school can be. Add an early sunset and a little wind, and you have the recipe for some cold school kids.

Start early in the school year helping kids build the habit of always having a hat and gloves in their backpacks. With quick weather changes, it is best to be prepared. Check that jackets are still moisture- and wind-resistant. Spray with a water-proofing sealant, or replace jackets that won't protect well against weather. Teach children to go directly home in inclement weather.

Finally, ensure that kids make it home safely from school or the bus stop with video surveillance and notices from [alarm.com](http://alarm.com). Video surveillance allows real-time checks, giving you the ability to see what your kids are doing before you get home. Text or email notices can tell you when they're home. You can also unlock the door for their arrival, and lock it again once they're safely inside.

Even if they call to check in when they get home, you'll already know they're there. Consider the convenience of video surveillance for your busy family!

# PFD Time

Dividends have arrived. Alaskans across the state are deciding how much to save and how much to spend. Every store around is having some sort of deal.

With close to one billion dollars suddenly in circulation on dividend day, businesses and airlines are competing for a piece of the pie.

Some Alaskans use their dividends for bills, like filling the oil tank before winter hits hard, or buying a gun cabinet. Others treat the dividend like a giant birthday present and come home with new TVs, four-wheelers, guns, or furniture.

Sadly, a happy time for Alaskan residents can turn unhappy when new purchases are stolen. It can be difficult or impossible to track stolen goods and have them returned in good condition.

That's why prevention is the key to protecting your goods and assets, as well as protecting your home and family from a scary invasion. Whether you are home at the time or not, a frightening home invasion destroys a family's sense of safety.

The following tips will help ensure that your goods are protected. First, don't leave valuable items unsecured outside your home. The easier it is to pick up,

the easier target it is. No garage to store your dirtbike in? Get a chain and padlock from the hardware store, and chain as many heavy items together as possible to deter thieves.

If possible, store ATVs, sleds, and tools out of sight in a garage or locked shed. If this isn't possible, secure such items with a chain and lock. The harder a thief has to work to steal your things, the less likely it is to happen.

Second, apply the Christmas principle... Just as during the Christmas season, don't leave valuable items in plain view through windows from outside the house. Install computers and televisions soon after purchase. Don't leave the new stereo on the coffee table for you to install later and for burglars to ogle.

Quickly remove packaging from your home. Nothing says "*Expensive TV Right Here!*" like a television-size cardboard box next to your garbage can awaiting trash day.

Break down boxes and styrofoam into smaller pieces and turn identifying graphics or words to the inside.

And finally, lock your home, even if you're there, to help ensure that any purchases you make this dividend day stay around.

## October Events

**Trick or Treat Town**, Anchorage, October 24 and 25. Now in its 23rd year of providing safe and fun trick or treating for kids. Dress the kids up and stay warm. Start times vary. Event tickets (\$7 in advance) can be purchased at <http://trickortreattown.org/>. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

**Alaska Railroad's HooDoo Choo Choo**, Fairbanks, October 18, \$169. All aboard for the first ever train, brewery, and food experience! Roundtrip service to Nenana promises scenic views, craft beer from HooDoo Brewing, and delicious food from LaVelle's Bistro. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride! Visit <http://www.alaskarailroad.com/travel/OurTrains/SpecialEventTrains/HooDooChooChoo/tabid/662/Default.aspx> or call 1-800-544-0552 for more information.

**Women's Health Fair**, Palmer, October 11, Mat-Su Regional Hospital. This annual event provides free lab screenings, including cholesterol, seminars, healthy snacks, and dozens of informative booths. Free. For more information visit <http://www.healthymatsu.org/calendar/annual-healthy-woman-fair>.

## Sliders: The Newest Grab-and-Dash Crime Wave

It happens at the gas pump. A driver gets out, swipes their card and starts pumping gas. Totally unaware, this driver becomes a victim of crime as a thief sneaks up to the car, opens the opposite door and takes a purse or wallet lying on the seat. It happens that quickly, and often without victims even knowing it has occurred.

Called “sliders,” this type of thief relies on drivers being distracted at the pump. Cars are often unlocked as drivers pump gas, sometimes even when going to the window to pay for their gas, sometimes even scrolling through cell phones as the tank fills. Altogether it’s a recipe for a theft as well as a big hassle. A little prevention can go a long way.

Think about your routine at the pump. Typically, drivers pull up to the pump, hop out and visit the cashier or swipe a card. That is enough time for a slider to strike, sneaking up to the opposite side of the car, opening the door and removing any valuables left on the seat, console, or dash.

Lesson: Lock your car and keep your keys on you. It’s worth the extra 60 seconds at the pump to protect your belongings.

Watch this report for more information: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjkgHJ55BU>

### HELP TAKE A BITE OUT OF GAS STATION THEFT.

#### HERE'S HOW...

-  Pick stations that are well-lighted and have pump video surveillance cameras.
-  Always remove your keys and lock the doors while you are pumping gas.
-  Keep valuables out of plain view in your vehicle and lock the doors even if you are going inside for a moment.
-  Pay attention to your surroundings.
-  Don't let your cell phone distract you.

For more tips, visit [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)